

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 046010
ORIGIN NEA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046010

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AG SHUM EFIN

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AND IFI LOANS

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING HOW TO BROACH WITH GOA LINKAGE BETWEEN ITS PERFORMANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND U.S. VOTES ON IFI LOANS TO ALGERIA. GIVEN CURRENT STRAINS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP, WE DO NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO BE ADOPTING A HOSTILE ATTITUDE BY DRAWING THIS LINKAGE IN A MANNER WHICH GOA WILL INTERPRET AS THREATENING. AT SAME TIME, WE WANT TO PUT GOA ON NOTICE THAT THERE IS SUCH A RELATIONSHIP.

2. POSSIBILITIES WE HAVE CONSIDERED INCLUDE A SCENARIO WHICH WOULD HAVE AMBASSADOR RAISE LINKAGE IN DISCUSSING
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DISSATISFACTION OF INTERNATIONAL RELIEF ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES WITH THEIR ACCESS TO SAHARAN REFUGEES. PREPARATIONS FOR THIS SUMMER'S FLN CONGRESS MIGHT MAKE IT POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENTLY FOR AMBASSADOR TO WELCOME INDICATIONS OF POSSIBLE DEMOCRATICIZATION OF ALGERIAN POLITICAL STRUCTURE. AT SOME TIME, AMBASSADOR WOULD BE EXPECTED TO EXPRESS USG CONCERN OVER DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL OF REGIME

OPPONENTS, INCLUDING BEN BELLA.

3. DEPARTMENT COGNIZANT OF STRONG STATEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS AMBASSADOR MADE IN INITIAL MEETING WITH BOUMEDIENE, AS WELL AS WITH ALGERIAN PRACTICE OF RAISING HUMAN RIGHTS IN EFFORT TO ELICIT USG SYMPATHY FOR POLISARIO.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON PROPOSED SCENARIO AS WELL AS ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS EMBASSY HAS REGARDING DISCUSSIONS WITH GOA ON THIS SUBJECT PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 27 MEETING OF INTERAGENCY GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ("CHRISTOPHER COMMITTEE"), WHICH WILL BE REVIEWING TWO PENDING WORLD BANK LOANS TO ALGERIA: SN METAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - U.S. DOLS 12,000,000; AND EDUCATION IV - U.S. DOLS 18,000,000.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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